IN THE CLAIMS:

Amend claims 1-2, cancel claims 3-10 without prejudice or admission, and add new claims 11-18 as shown in the following listing of claims, which replaces all previous listings and versions of claims.

1. (currently amended) An image compression method comprising the steps of:

providing at least one display image comprising pixels each including color attribute data separated into upper bits and lower bits;

eliminating the lower bits ~~data bits other than the upper data bits~~ of the color attribute data ~~of~~ for each pixel of ~~a displaying~~ the display image;

extracting the ~~upper bits~~ upper bits of the color attribute data for each pixel of the display image; and

combining together the extracted upper bits of the color attribute data for each pixel of the display image to thereby compress the display image.

2. (currently amended) An image compression method according to claim ~~1, further~~ 1; wherein the at least one display image provided in the providing step comprises a plurality of display images; and further comprising the step ~~of: changing~~ of changing the number of the upper bits of the

color attribute data for each ~~image to be displayed~~ of the display images.

3. - 10. (canceled).

11. (new) A data communication system comprising:

a control unit that receives a command for compressing a display image from a computing system via an interface, the display image comprising pixels each including color attribute data separated into upper bits and lower bits; and

a data compressing unit that compresses the display image in accordance with the command received by the control unit by eliminating the lower bits of the color attribute data for each pixel of the display image, extracting the upper bits of the color attribute data for each pixel of the display image, and combining together the extracted upper bits of the color attribute data for each pixel of the display image.

12. (new) A data communication system according to claim 11; wherein the display image comprises a plurality of display images each compressed by the data compressing unit; and wherein during compression of each of the display images by the data compressing unit, the number of the upper bits of the color attribute data for each of the display images is changed.

13. (new) A data communication system according to claim 12; further comprising a transceiver unit that radio transfers image data of each of the display images compressed by the data compressing unit.

14. (new) A data communication system according to claim 13; wherein during compression the data compressing unit changes the compression rate for each of the display images in order to unify a transfer period of time for each of the display images.

15. (new) A data communication system according to claim 12; wherein during compression the data compressing unit changes the compression rate for each of the display images in order to unify a transfer period of time for each of the display images.

16. (new) A data communication system according to claim 11; further comprising a transceiver unit that radio transfers image data of the display image compressed by the data compressing unit.

17. (new) A data communication system according to claim 16; wherein the display image comprises a plurality of display images each compressed by the data compressing unit; and wherein during compression the data compressing unit changes the compression rate for each of the display images in

order to unify a transfer period of time for each of the display images.

18. (new) A data communication system according to claim 11; wherein the display image comprises a plurality of display images each compressed by the data compressing unit; and wherein during compression the data compressing unit changes the compression rate for each of the display images in order to unify a transfer period of time for each of the display images.